

House Affs.

SPEED LETTER		REPLY REQUESTED		DATE	
		YES	X	N	28 February 1972
				LETTER NO. ILLEGIB	
TO : ATTN: DCFE		FROM: C/ 			
<p>STATINTL <i>House Foreign AFFAIRS Committee</i> has checked with the staff of Congressman Wolff. They know nothing of the so called secret report nor STATINTL</p> <p>of the "Sense of the House" Resolution. will continue to stay in touch with the staff to see what they learn or what develops (we agreed it would be impolitic to go to Congressman Wolff directly.) STATINTL</p> <p>Attachments: (2) Jack Anderson's column </p> <p>STATINTL STATINTL</p> <p>STATINTL cc OLC w/atts CFE atts CFE w/atts</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 280px; height: 100px; margin: 10px auto;"></div>					
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FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1386

INFO RUMJMA/AMEMBASSY MANILA 6309

RUMJDH/AMCONSUL HONG KONG 2292

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 2722

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: ANDERSON/WOLFF "FACTS"

REF: (A) USINFO MSG 272315Z (NOTAL)

(B) BANGKOK 1844 (NOTAL)

1. WE HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT "INFORMATION" PRESENTED IN JACK ANDERSON'S COLUMN, AS REPORTED IN REF A, THE SOURCE OF WHICH HE GIVES AS CONGRESSMAN LESTER D. WOLFF (D-NY). WE ARE AWARE OF THE CONGRESSMAN'S INTEREST IN NARCOTICS AND, AS WE REPORTED IN REF B, HIS FEBRUARY 3 REMARKS IN THE UNITED STATES, FOLLOWING HIS RETURN FROM A TWO WEEK TRIP TO EAST ASIA, WERE GIVEN PROMINENT SPACE IN THE LOCAL PRESS. AT THAT TIME WE NOTED THAT CONGRESSMAN WOLFF MADE HIS REMARKS WITHOUT VISITING THAILAND ON THAT TRIP. TO THIS WE CAN NOW ADD THAT AFTER CANVASSING BNDD, CUSTOMS AND STATE DEPARTMENT STAFF IN THAILAND, WE CAN REPORT THAT NO, REPEAT NO, ONE ASSIGNED HERE HAD ANY CONTACT WITH WOLFF ON HIS RECENT TRIP.

2. CONCERNING THE ANDERSON/WOLFF "SPECIFICS" ON THE MOVEMENT OF NARCOTICS THROUGH AND FROM THAILAND, WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING PRELIMINARY OBSERVATIONS:

(A) THAILAND HAS MANY FISHING TRAWLERS. THERE ARE CERTAINLY HUNDREDS AND PERHAPS SEVERAL THOUSAND REGISTERED FISHING BOATS IN

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THE COUNTRY. WE KNOW SOME OF THEM ARE USED FOR NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, AS WITNESSED BY THE FACT THAT IN JULY A JOINT RTG/RVN NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT EXERCISE RESULTED IN THE SEIZURE OF SOME 44 KILOGRAMS OF HEROIN AND ALMOST 300 KILOGRAMS OF OPIUM MOVED IN A THAI FISHING BOAT TO VIETNAM.

B) SOME THAI-REGISTERED FISHING VESSELS ARE CURRENTLY USED TO SMUGGLE OPIUM TO HONG KONG. WE HAVE SOME IDEA OF WHICH VESSELS, BASED ON CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE, ARE INVOLVED. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION THAT "TOP THAI OFFICIALS" ARE INVOLVED IN THE OPERATION OF THE SUSPECTED TRAFFICKING VESSELS.

C) WE ALSO HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ANY "CONTINGENCY PLAN" FOR TRANSHIPMENT VIA MANILA.

D) THE ANDERSON/WOLFF ESTIMATE OF 750 TONS OF PRODUCTION IN THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE AREA OF BURMA, LAOS AND THAILAND CORRESPONDS ROUGHLY TO THAT CONTAINED IN SURVEYS DONE BY THE UNITED NATIONS IN 1967 AND 1970, AND WITH OUR OWN. HOWEVER, TO SAY THAT THIS IS PRODUCED "UNDER THE VERY NOSES OF THE THAI GOVERNMENT" IS INCORRECT. SUCH OPIUM AS IS GROWN IN THAILAND IS CULTIVATED IN RUGGED MOUNTAIN AREAS BY NON-ETHNIC HILLTRIBESMEN WHO ARE ON THE FRINGES, CULTURALLY, ECONOMICALLY AND POLITICO/ADMINISTRATIVELY, OF THE MAINSTREAM OF THAI LIFE. FURTHER, AND EFFORT, AT THIS TIME BY THE FEWER THAN 150 NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS RESPONSIBLE IN THIS NATION OF 200,000 SQUARE MILES IN ELIMINATING IT WOULD PLACE THESE MEN SQUARELY IN AN AREA HEAVILY POPULATED AND PARTIALLY CONTROLLED BY WELL-ARMED COMMUNITIES DIRECTED FROM OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY.

COMMENT:

3. THE ANDERSON/WOLFF STATEMENTS ON CORRUPTION ABOUT THAILAND'S TOP OFFICIALS ARE SERIOUSLY MISLEADING. THAILAND, ELSEWHERE, NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT LEADS ITSELF TO TEMPTATION AND CORRUPTION. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS OF CORRUPTION AMONG SOME WORKING LEVEL NARCOTICS OFFICIALS, POLICE GENERAL PRASERT,

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HEAD OF THE THAI NATIONAL POLICE AND A MEMBER OF THE RULING
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, HAS STATED PUBLICALLY THAT HE WOULD
PUNISH ANY CORRUPT OFFICIAL.

4. WHILE THIS MESSAGE FOCUSSED ON SPECIFICS OF ANDERSON STORY
IN ANTICIPATION DEPARTMENT'S IMMEDIATE NEED, WE HAVE AMPLE
EVIDENCE OF CONSTRUCTIVE FORTHCOMING RTG COOPERATION WITH US IN
PROGRAMS TO COMBAT NARCOTICS WHICH WILL BE PULLED TOGETHER IN
SEPTEL TOMORROW. UNGER

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Jack Anderson

Thais Continue Dope Hustling

Washington Post, 27/2/72 p. C7

SOME of Thailand's top officials are operating a fleet of 11 trawlers which move dozens of tons of opium a year to Hong Kong for shipment to American addicts.

The names of the Thai-registered ships, each capable of hauling 3.3 tons of opium a voyage, are known to American officials in Southeast Asia. So are the Thai officials' names.

But despite a joint understanding signed in September by Secretary of State William Rogers and then-Thai Foreign Minister Thanat Khoman on ending the narcotics traffic, the dope hustling by Thai officials goes on.

These are the findings of a heretofore secret report being prepared for the House Foreign Affairs committee by Rep. Lester Wolff, (D-N.Y.)

Wolff gathered his data from disgruntled U.S. narcotics agents, who feel their hands are tied for political reasons; from customs men; from foreign officials, and from State Department officers themselves.

The Congressman's report says that Thai officials in the smuggling racket are so well organized that they have prepared formal contingency plans for shifting their terminal point to Manila if Hong Kong is closed.

In fact, the Thai officials have already established ties with corrupt Philippine authorities, and have picked unloading spots along the island's jigsaw shoreline.

At present, much of the 750 tons of opium produced in Laos, Thailand and Burma is trucked down to Bangkok under the very noses of the Thai government. More than 50 tons a year of this raw opium, plus an unknown amount of processed opium, is then loaded aboard the ships.

The trawlers carry it into Red Chinese waters where it is loaded into junks which slip into Hong Kong's numerous harbors. The raw opium is then processed and smuggled as heroin into the United States.

Wolff is drafting a letter to President Nixon urging him to cut off aid to Thailand unless the Thais live up to the September 1962 agreement. Foreign Affairs committee man is also introducing a "sense of the House" resolution.

full-dress investigation of Luns' statements.

Luns first made the charge of a U.S. doublecross at the time the Dutch surrendered New Guinea to Indonesia in 1962. However, he did not elaborate.

In 1969, Luns spelled out his charge. He said the Dutch government had received "concrete promises" of full support from the Kennedy administration in defending New Guinea against Indonesia in 1962.

But Luns said that when fighting broke out, then-Attorney General Robert Kennedy paid Indonesian dictator Sukarno a friendly visit and subsequently persuaded his brother to forget the commitments to the Dutch. Luns charged that Robert Kennedy was "anti-Dutch."

By the time Luns detailed his charge, of course, both Kennedy brothers were dead. But his version has been challenged by a host of former Kennedy aides.

Such advisors as Theodore Sorensen, Arthur Schlesinger and McGeorge Bundy have all said the Kennedy administration had no such commitment to the Dutch.

Hearing of this, Luns changed his story. He now says the commitment dated back to a 1958 meeting between him and President Eisenhower's Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Dulles of course, is also dead. But Howard Palfrey Jones, who was deputy assistant secretary of state for Far Eastern Affairs under Dulles, says he knew nothing of any such agreement.

State Department officials we have contacted have also said they know of no such commitments.

Volpe's Lavish Lunches

THE General Accounting Office recently revealed that it was costing the taxpayer an average of \$14.55 for each lunch eaten in the so-called executive lunchroom in the Transportation Department. But unfortunately, the GAO prescribed nothing to stop the extravagance.

Now one of Ralph Nader's organizations, the Aviation Consumer Project, has come up with a novel idea to reduce the cost of these exorbitant lunches.

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